Zuni Expedition
from
May 21st to July 15th
1851

Coll.
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No 2

ACADEMY
NAT. SCI.
PHILA.
no. 387
B(2)

Wednesday May 21st Cloudy until 9 a.m then clear most of the country we passed over to day was slightly undulating and almost destitute of grass some little Mesquite timber on our approach to the San ~~Felipe~~ Pedro it altered and became hilly and the lime stone rocks in some places had much the appearance of high stone walls of many feet in height and in one place near the river it had much the appearance of Egyptian Architecture the road following a crooked gorge through the mountains comes suddenly to the river

which stream is about 60 yards wide rapid and clear with a solid limestone bottom on each side there are perpendicular of the river the strata of limestone extends out from the mountains forming perpendicular sides about 150 feet high this is said to be the only spot where this river can be crossed for several miles one side or the other. For this reason it was called by Jack Hays the Devils river for he and his men came near starving in trying to hunt a place where they

with their animals could cross it is really a beautiful and romantic stream and I think miscalled by Hays. but the name would well apply to the surrounding country after crossing the River and following the road two miles we encamped at a place called Painted Caves on account of numerous Indian hieroglephics found on the sides, we are encamped in a barren not a blade of grass is to be seen but a few stunted bushes prickly pear, bear grass & Spanish bayonet.

the soil is gravelly our mules to night will have to depend upon grass. the water found here is in holes in the rock and is rain water all our water casks were filled at the crossing of the river. This afternoon Mr. Skillman with a few men stopped at Camp and reports that we will not find water until we again strike the San Pedro which is 36 miles from here. and Capt F. has determined to start the train at mid night. Mr. S is just from

El Paso on his way to San Antonio I sent a letter by him to Aunt Harriett We struck our tents at dark and prepared for a bivouac there has evidently been no rain in this country for at least two months. We are now surrounded by Mountains on all sides and there is scarcely any thing green to be seen on them. but the limestone rocks are to be seen jutting out on all sides We had come to day 12 miles

Thursday 22d We started this morning at 10 a.m. the moon shone beautifully I being unable to ride my mule got into May Capers carriage on account of my being badly poisoned. Capt Arthur with a number of the soldiers started ahead to look for water but were unsuccessfull some of the men seeing them returning at a distance took them for Indians Capt T and a number of us were ahead and left

Williams with his men
come charging after us
thinking to find the Indians
with us and have a fight
but he soon found that
it was a false alarm
The country over which
we passed for the first
15 miles was a kind of
table land and covered
with but little vegetation
from here on it was
a succession of hills
from here to the river
some of which are very
high and the road rocky
winding through gorges in

the mountains the Country looked perfectly barren. We arrived at the second crossing of the River about 2 P.M. Crossed the river and encamped about the one and a half miles from the crossing. here the stream looks beautifull with high mountains on each side with some timber such as live Oak, Pecan & Walnut we are encamped in a gravelly bottom and the grass is tolerable I took a bath in the river and was quite

refreshed because sign
we found here
Friday 23d Cloudy and
misty early but soon
cleared the road passed up
the valley of the stream
which we crossed eight
times in as many miles
several of which were
dry much of the road
was over large gravel
and was very tiresome for
the animals the country
is quite picturesque
having mountains on
either side and consid
erable timber on the stream

we encamped after going about 12 miles on large level with tolerable grass found much difficulty in driving teams on account of rock about 5 O'clock Mr Wright & I started for the top of the mountain the wind had been blowing from the east and all at once it changed to the north and blew furiously and quite cold soon after we got to the top Mr. French overtook us and it commenced raining and we all

got under some bushes to protect us which they did for some time seeing that it was going to continue I started the wind blowing and the rain falling furiously by the time I reached camp I was wet to my skin. I immediately changed my clothes the storm continuing we were forced to take our supper in our tent. the wind blew and one tent fell after another was drawn out and I with the Captain had to turn out and secure the tent when I got into the tent I was again

wet got all my things ready so as to prevent them getting wet I did not spread my blankets until late fearing that the tent would blow over but I became very sleepy and I was forced at last to spread them. but I got but little sleep for every few minutes the walls would blow up and in would come the rain in my face at last the Captains side gave way and he turned out and fastened them. I had before secured one of my tent

cords to Mr Smith's tent. pole
and some of the rest to
bushes in doing which
I got my hands full of
thorns there being some Cactus
growing among them after
we again got it as we thought
secure we turned in but
we were not long under
our blankets when it again
commenced blowing furiously
and I got up and lit the
candle and collected every thing
together rolled up my bedding
so did also the Captain
we concluded to strike
our tent over our things

as it must fall as it then
rained heavily we went
into Dr. Smiths tent and there
found Captain French his
tent having blown down
Capt F went to sleep and
the rest of us played several
games of euchre the storm
then abating we returned to
our tent found returned
Saturday 24th When I awoke
this morning the sun
was quite bright shining
bright and hot and the
camp presented quite
a distressed appearance
as most all of the tents

had been blown down and blankets clothes &c were thrown over the grass to dry it took me all the morning to get my things in order during the night 6½ inches of rain fell Capt. measured it. at 12½ P.M. we started and crossed the river the ford was dry after going about a mile we had again to cross the stream but found it too deep and the river rising rapidly at the rate of 1 foot per hour Capt. & sent back word for the train to remain

where they were our wagons and Col Emahous alone got across and Nichols had to swim his horse to get across this change was in half an hour, we are encamped well up on the hill and have plenty of grass for our animals

Sunday 25th The river seem already high the wagons have not been able to cross. it has been clear and hot. I spent most of the day in scrubbing boots & socks in the river

Monday 26th This morning the river has fallen and the train was able to join us we left about 8 A.M. crossed the river without difficulty followed the road along the valley of the river which was very good with the exception of about half a mile which was swampy this was near where we are encamped which is at the head of the row was summer and eight miles from our last

camp - here we found fine grass & plenty of water. I spent most of the day in trying to procure specimens rambling in the valley and on the mountains. I have procured specimens of a bird? which I believe is new the head of which is black, with a white line over the eye from the base of the bill, belly and throat white, back olivaceous I found it feeding in the cedars, it has a Bengalese note, have numerous other

The most of which were
the large tree snake,
one which, Ictinodon preserved made
a singular hissing noise
flattened its head and made
fight. I also procured a small
toad covered with red spots,
a whitish lizard with a tail
banded black and white.

Tuesday [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] in order at
[illegible] we started [illegible]
valley with a gradual [illegible]
for many miles, [illegible]

on each side high land
from the cliff the letter
reputation in a hut Sylvester
we came to the top and a
country round resembling
the great prairie except
that the Sycamore grows
more scattered. I proceed
in accordance of the letter
following on Lonsdale it
proved to be a female
the male lost among
dark after some about
14 miles and [illegible] from
water standing all the road
we encamped I have
attack of colic

[illegible]
for our breakfast.
We leave at 7½ for Cuenca
where we arrive at
3 P.M. and have got under
cover at 6 P.M. and
very comfortably housed
[illegible]
[illegible] a gradual ascent, the
[illegible] The [illegible]
of the country is [illegible]
the [illegible] but [illegible]
of which is to be seen
on the same level on
all the hills the [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible]
of [illegible] [illegible]

for the first time to
day on Outlet Pa.
This beautiful little
animal appeared to
have much curiosity
it would come into
the camp and then
sit in front of the tent
and stare at us
very quietly for half
an hour at a time and
after coming close to us
we found it was afraid
of being touched
several times when
we had it in our hands

at the foot which was
about six miles from Cay
appears to be a favorite
camp of the Indians so
also is this as we found
Indian tags about
but all old. Sugar as
it may seem strange
I left the Cutters, I
not see or heard a wolf
howl. here grows
Plum and Mulberry in
abundance in large and
holes it is of good quality
and tell the Lord
left thursday and
I see any plants

Thursday 29th. Left camp this morning about 7 a.m. and, passed a valley for about 4 miles gradually ascending all the way on the S. side of a stream. We divide a short distance on either side of water there are deep and rocky canons we have been for a number of miles and it getting late we have set down for a [illegible] after we have moving forward when we have gone over five or six miles

[illegible] here we found tol-
erable grazing [illegible]
close [illegible] there is a large
summer villa [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
for a [illegible]
today [illegible]
[illegible] I [illegible] learned not
[illegible] of them, we
no [illegible] for we
we [illegible]
French and a few be-
[illegible] have gone
and [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] every [illegible]
and [illegible] in [illegible] into
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] never [illegible]
before [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
the afternoon [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
there is but little [illegible]
and plenty of [illegible] and
a [illegible] this evening.

Sunday 31 Clear & hot
had little air stirring a
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
with weather of which we
expect what is called
the green here the trees
are still and we are
[illegible]
[illegible]
but they were green

reach the wagons as the
water on the west side
was too deep. From
there went to an open
prairie where there
thousands of buffalo lost
season and after clearing
was the drift and shooting
shell were there to keep
peak on third and the
men packed wagons
over before dark. About
10 O'clock Pres. arrived with
a cockeye at my stern
and remained consider-
ably slightly tuning with
bitter wind and sleet

myself under a wagon
and had considerable
attack after continuing
some time terminated in
a [illegible] sweat. [illegible]
[illegible]
the wind [illegible] and
I was choked with [illegible]
Sunday June 1st Cleared off
a fine breeze blowing from
the South & it quite cool
in the morning until 9 o'clock
when. was taken sick again
at my stomach with a violent
cramp and been a poor
[illegible] this morning you

rows and set a wagon in which they succeeded in getting. The flooding damaged the wheat. There are now hauling the wagons across at the ford. One of the teathers had a horse drowned yesterday last night for the first I heard wolves howling took my gun and tried to get a shot at them but was unsuccessfull.

Monday June 2nd Clear hot but a fine breeze blowing from the south left Camp at 7 A.M. and continued up the Pecos

sixteen miles but little verdure is to be seen and that is along the river bottom the mountains on each side are perfectly brown with the exception of ~~of~~ bush occasionally we are now encamped on the edge of the river the banks of which are so steep that they are forced to water the mules out of buckets. I rode to day in the Ambulance. so also did Captn Kilgrove is unable being sick. On spreading my blankets I found the bottom

very rough there being many
trunks I had some reeds
cut and spread them
over the bottom of the tent
and in that way made a
comfortable bed and also kept
the dust from blowing about
~~one~~ of the Tent. One of the
teamsters was run over by a
wagon and is badly injured
I wonder that he was not killed
immediately as the wagons
was heavily loaded and the
road hard
Tuesday 3rd. Left Camp at
7 A. M. the day has been
clear and very hot but little

air stirring about half past eleven came in Camp on the Pecos plenty of grass but not of a good quality the country over which we have passed has been quite barren the water we found quite palatable and the river rising

Wednesday 4th left Camp at 7 A.M. and came into Camp on the Pecos for the last time at half past 9. A.M. barren enough has been the country thus far and no prospect of an improvement a head feeling perfectly well rode my

mile in the afternoon Mr. Haigh
& I visited the mountain south
of us it is about 3 miles distant
found there an immense
sink at the bottom of which
was growing mesquite, this sink
is about 50 feet deep found
a few plants and some
fossil oyster shells. The day
has been clear and warm
Thursday 5th left camp at
6 A.M. followed along a
plane south. Irregular
shaped mountains on either
side but none quite distant
the most of it was a barren
waste about 12 M we arrived

at Escondido Creek we found this a mass of rushes the water clear & warm salt as brine and mingled with all kinds of infernal stuff rendering it nauseous. Capt French killed some Ducks Anas discors & Anas Clypeata there is nothing about this camp inviting

Friday 6th This day has been hot this afternoon there was a slight shower which came by laid the dust. We left Camp this morning about 7 A. M. and about 10 A. M. we again encamped at Escondido spring

which is about 9 miles from the last. The road was up a barren valley with singular shaped hills on either side this spring is really a fine one the water coming out of a limestone rock it is abundant and very cool. really it is to us a great treat. This has been a place of great resort of the Indians as signs of their old Camps are here to be seen in a number of rocks some holes that had evidently been used as mortars for grinding meat & perhaps Corn. they were round about six inches in

diameter, and about ten deep slightly conical they had the appearance of having been much used. Here and there to be found a number of Cactii. This evening Mag Backer and I took a walk to the top of the Mountain near the camp found it rough and difficult of ascent. On the top I shot a specimen of Buteo borealis. Birds of all kinds have been exceedingly rare since we left Lake Oak Creek also plants.

Saturday 7th Reveille sounded at daybreak and all hands

commenced preparing for the march at 8 a.m. we started and at noon came to a halt at the Camanchia Springs we ascended a plane most of the distance and not until we were near the spring did we commence descending; scarcely a green blade of grass was to be seen, the day has been exceedingly hot scarcely a breath of air stirring. These springs are quite ~~extensive~~ numerous ~~the grass quite deep~~ and the water good but short but with a slight sulphery smell ~~issuing from the springs~~ ~~it is to active and deposit~~

there found fossil oyster & other marine shells. These springs form quite a Creek in which fish & ducks are quite abundant. Col Graham, Lieuts Smith, Burnside. Mr Gray & Mr Lawson (Mr Radzimski) together with several El Paso traders arrived this evening. The Col & party left San Antonio on the 25th of May he brought quite a mail but there was nothing for me and I am much disappointed, we did not retire early for we had much to talk about. found but little news in the papers.

Sunday 8th Clear and hot left

this morning at 9 A M and after travelling near ten miles over a country slightly undulating with but little grass, we soon reached the Leon Springs they consist of two large water holes which are about 20 ft deep and 50 feet in diameter from these there is quite a stream issues. the water is quite good but a short distance from the springs it is slightly saline and the deposite of salt is to be seen in numerous places on the meadow for this is the best name I can give it for it is perfectly

flat and subject to overflow
Col Graham remained at the
last Camp until this evening
Monday 9th As there is a pros
pect of our having to make
a long march of 37 miles or
more without water the Capt.
has determined not to start
until 4 P.M. and we are making
preparations accordingly. This
morning there was a race
come off between Lieut Williamson's
mare and a Q.M. Masters horse
distance 800 yds $50. Lieut W. mare
was beat owing to bad riding
about noon we had a slight
shower accompanied with

hard and wind it did not last long at 4 P.M. we started it was very hot but the sun was soon obscured by clouds found the grass improving looking quite green about sunset we come to some large water holes we watered our animals and took a lunch and started travelling until Tuesday 6th at 9 A.M. when we bivouacked I fastened my mule to a small bush near which I put my saddle which I made my pillow and in a few minutes I was sound asleep in about two hours I awoke much refr

ached breakfast was soon
ready after which we started
within a half a mile from
this plenty of water was disco-
vered and the animals were
all watered before we
started. Capt French Lieut Smith
and I started together. on
awaking this morning I found
that we had got in quite
a different country having
left the limestone formation
here we are surrounded by
high hills composed of
basalt being of volcanic
origin, scoria is found to be
quite abundant they are quite

ragged and present quite
a picturesque appearance
after riding a number of
miles up the valley for we
left the road and took a differ
ent course to find water
after going about 5 miles we
found a spring at the base
of the mountain 1½ miles from
the Limpia. here we discovered
a stray mule which we supposed
to be Shillaners for it was
here he left us: soon after
our passing the mountain
we discovered a green spot
in a gorge of the mountain. for
which we immediately started

and on following up this deep ravine about 1/4 of a mile we came across an abundance of water which was fine and cool. we then rode to the Lempia up which we rode several miles and finding no water returned and camped where the road crosses it had the water brought from the spring in the mountain gorge at the distance of 2 miles on mules. the animals were driven there for water.

Wednesday 11th Clear & hot at 7 A.M. we started on our march we followed up the Lempia until we came to Wild Rose pass

and here turned to the left following the pass. The Geological formation of this country is exceedingly interresting it having every appearance at one time of a great upheaval. The mountains assume many shapes, and their sides are formed by the perpendicular basalt. we struck a small dry creek on which we expected to encamp where the road crosses, but it was dry. men were here sent in advance to look for water getting tired of waiting for them we started on and at the head of the valley overtook

them - they having found water we there encamped. it was a mile and a half from camp but plenty of water was discovered quite near. One was a fine spring of the coldest & best water I have had in Texas

Thursday 12th Clear and pleasant a slight shower in the afternoon it has been raining all around us. left Camp at 7 A.M. Col Graham Mr Radzymuski & I ascended one of the highest mountains near there taking the siphon barometer with us to ascertain its height we ascended to within 100 ft of the top. and there stopped

under a small black jack
so as to have the benefit of the
shade and a place to hang the
instrument on. found the ascent
and descent very difficult being
very steep. this was quite an
undertaking for the Colonel
the light above the plane below
was . it was 10½ A.M.
before we again got under way
the view from the point where
we were was magnificent
we were able to see most of
the train in motion. we followed
a valley for many miles
on either side of which
there were high and picturesque

hills, on which there were numerous live oak trees and in the valley a small walnut, willow & cotton wood trees on coming out on the plane we came to a large marmot village, which which we passed through until we came to the camp which we found at the base of a mountain on which there was plenty of water and timber it is called the painted Camp for what reason I know not. the scene of the Camp and the wild scenery from the plane was quite picturesque. we are encamped in a grove of cottonwood, I have

procured on the marmot valley
a small horned frog such as
I have not before seen. also some
lizards. it has got quite cool and
rained this evening. one of
the priests sent me a marmot
which I preserved and had
the carcass cooked for supper
it was very good eating
Sunday 13th Clear & hot. Capt
French this morning early
sent a party of men ahead
to ascertain where we could
find water and this evening
a mexican was sent back
and reports plenty of water
20 miles from here. This

morning Lieut Williams and I ascended to the top of one of the highest mountains near us found the ascent rough and in some places rather difficult. On the highest point in a pile of rocks we found a wild Cherry tree growing. We had a very extensive and sufficient view of the surrounding country. The scenery was really wild. On these mountains we found, two or three species of Oaks. a small walnut & Cedar trees growing some of the latter of which were quite large one I think was three feet in diameter. The formation consists of basaltic rock quantities

of lava & calcedony. On the top the compass varied as much as 90° in the distance of three yards which we thought was caused by magnetic ore which this rock appears to contain we continued along the ridge some distance when we commenced descending which we found quite difficult. Prevailed the Bishop & Lieut Smith to dine with us to day.

In the afternoon Dr Smith and I examined a mule that was shot supposing that he had the glanders we found the mule perfectly healthy

with the exception of one of the glands of the throat which was slightly ulcerated. There was a slight shower this evening and quite cool.

Saturday 17th Left Camp

This morning at 7 A.M. passed over a fine prairie and on all sides were to be seen high mountains of all shapes, making the journey quite interresting. We saw numerous antelope also one panther. and still continued in the marmot village which we entered on Thursday last I think it must extend for 30 miles killed several rattlesnakes

and saw a fierce Mammoth and
6 bulls. We have come to day
about 20 miles and we are
encamped among the hills
near a ravine in which there
is some rain water. The
grazing is tolerable the ground
being stony it has been rather
hard on tent pins, the road
to day was excellent. Some
of the rock near where
we are encamped much resembles
white granular quartz
there are some large lots of
this, also feldspathic rock
The day has been clear and pleasant
that evening we had some rain and

much wind Col Grahams tent blew down.

Sunday 15th Clear & pleasant left camp at 7½ A.M. and after going about 12 miles come to a halt in a large piece of prairie on which there was much rain water standing. Mr Osmon has been many miles ahead of this and reports scarcity of water. The grazing here is good. last night it has rained heavily between this and our last camp the first portion of the road this morning was rough and hilly the latter portion good the horses

to the grass and have made considerable fire on a mountain about 6 miles to the north of us something stampeded the mules to night fortunately they were all caught.

Monday 16th Reveille sounded at 1 A.M. the moon shone bright and it was quite cool at 2 A.M. the train was underway. the fire on the mountain was still raging. Just as we were leaving Hillsmon arrived with a mail he left San Antonio on the 8th he was accompanied by Mr Crockem & a boy. I received a letter from Dr Leroth of May 5th

at daylight. not feeling well
got into the Ambulance. we had
a charming morning and were
fortunate enough to find
water in several holes. passed
over a very pretty country
Mr. Edgar the settler reports
having seen Indians yesterday
afternoon where the fire was
started he was within speaking
distance and hollowed to them
but they would not approach
but left. they were supposed
to have been Pascaloros
a band of the Apaches. at
9½ a.m. we come to a halt on a
green spot of grass where there

was a water hole. Here we had dinner and at 2 P.M. we were again under way from here on we passed over a rough road and in about 10 miles come to Providence creek here we found a water hole and but little grass the dust was terrible the whole air was filled with it and the day has been excessively hot. To day we have come about 37 miles. I retired soon after dark only removing my boots. Skillman left at 1 P.M. he expects to be in El Paso the day after tomorrow. Mr Grays wagon broke down this morning and has not yet arrived

Tuesday 7th Reville sounded this morning at 1 O'clock and shortly after 2 A.M. we were underway Col Graham's mules are all missing so are also the priests. a portion of the rear guard have been left with them. two days wages arrived just before we left and the soldiers that were with them have had no rest the grass is all dead. the country over which we passed for 15 miles the soil is good but vegetation has suffered for the want of rain, after this we come into a different formation it looks much like the

the old red sand stone the
mountains are and the strata
is almost horizontal. There
is also abundance of Quartz and
a very fine sand stone such as
is used for sythe stone & serpentine
is also found. This portion of
the road was rather rough
passed over some hills and then
entered a large valley with mountains
on either side at 1 P.M. we
arrived at Eagle Springs to
get to them we have to go down
a ravine for some distance
they are among the mountains
and are almost dry much doubt
exists wether there is sufficient

water for the train. scarcely a blade of grass is to be seen. The animals will be in a bad way. Capt. Francis has sent the train to the Rio Grande, there not being sufficient water for them and we are to remain until midnight and then start this afternoon there was some soldiers with ~~[illegible]~~ mules sent back to assist Col Graham but he arrived here between 10 & 11 O'clock and it is his intention to remain here until tomorrow afternoon. Maj Brooks Lieut Williamson and ~~[illegible]~~ escort left this evening with the

main train. The bishop and his party remained with us the day was been excessively hot there was a shower for the most of us which cooled the air in the afternoon.
Wednesday 18th The moon came bright at 12 ~~and~~ after taking some coffee we started for the Rio Grande. The bivouac was pleasant but I slept but little partly on account of the Colonels party arriving. I rode a few miles on my mule and then got into the Ambulance as the first portion of the road was hilly ~~and~~ there

were quite a forrest of tall
Spanish bayonets on either side. The remaining
portion until we arrived at
the Cañon was good. after we
had gone about 12 miles we discover
ed two signal Indian fires on the
mountains and we halted and
got our arms in order we then
continued the road was awful
dusty and we together with our
animals were nearly choked
fortunately the night was
cool. at sun rise we halted,
and gave the mules a little
water out of the casks. There
is not a blade of grass to be
seen in most places.

ground was perfeilly bare
and in other places there
was much old dry grass.
of last year there is no
indication of its having
rained here for one
year. just as we were
about two miles from the
entrance of the Canon
we come across a mule that
had given out and had been
left not being able to
follow the wagons we gave
him a little water and
moved on we soon passed
two more these however
were not quite so far gone

on arriving at the Canon we meet the last of the wagons just entering, and we stopped to lunch and give them a chance to advance. we remained there about half an hour gave our animals the rest of the water, and then entered the Canon we had not got far when we were stopped by the last wagon of the train it being stalled. the animals being completely exhausted The Captain ordered him to turn out his mules and drive them to the river. we soon passed 15 wagons in the same condition, and

so as to give our wagons a chance to pass them.
were all hauled to one side and the mules turned loose and as soon as they were stripped of the harness they started off as hard as they could go for the river which was about eight miles distant. it appeared that they could smell the water. we soon passed the crossed and a more forlorn set of looking animals I have not seen for many a day. this canon is a horrible rocky place with high rocky hills on each side and what surprises me most is that so far of the wagons

should be left for the animals have come 90 miles without water or grass.
The last eight miles of the road is worse for animals and wagons than the 22 miles back to the water of it is down hill but rough and over all a perpendicular hill. This may be said to be a perfectly natural road with all its roughness and is susceptible of much artificial improvement; to pass over such a road with a wagon of any kind in the white settlements as we say in this country meaning the more civilized states would

he considered perfectly reckless, yet nearly all the heavily loaded teams passed over it with but one or two upsets. We arrived at the Rio Grande about 10½ A.M. I went immediately to the river and watered my mule and it was really amusing to see these poor mules rush to the water they would thrust their heads in up to their eyes and commence drinking not however satisfied with this they would keep going in deeper and deeper until it would be too deep to

walk any farther they would then swim round and round and it would be some time before they would leave it. I never saw animals improve in such a short time when they arrived at the water they proved to be nothing but skin and bone their eyes sunken in their heads and their bellys tucked up. perfect pictures of misery. on coming out how metamorphosed for they were as full as ticks. The river here is quite about 20 yds wide muddy and rapid

& muddy.
the banks ~~muddy~~ low but
not quicksandy There are
a few Cotton wood trees
growing on the banks, but
not a blade of grass. The
animals will have to live
on a species of cane and
weeds. We have pitched our
tents under some Cotton
wood trees but in an awful
dusty place, and we are getting
a full benefit of it. I never
have been as much disgusted
with any country as with
this part of Texas, it certain
ly was never made for
white men to live in.

after washing my face and hands I spread my blanket and went to sleep for I was quite tired and awfull dirty about sun set we all went to the river took a bath and put on clean clothes I really felt like a different being. This afternoon I have seen a few birds nothing during the evening we lay discussing the events of the day and smoking our pipes we heard three shots fired at a distance. The Indians have a signal fire on the hill mountain back of us. Shortly

after taps when we were about retiring, heard the picket guard challenge "who comes there" three times and then he fired. Capt. A. had the bugle sounded and the men all turned out to be in readiness in case they might be wanted. and then sent the corporal of the guard with some men to learn the cause of the alarm. they soon returned and report that the sentinel seeing three or four men approach on horseback and thinking they might be

our men challenged three times then fired. when they immedeately turned their horses and went at full speed back to the mountain. in all probabability they were Indians. the soldiers were then dismissed and retired we did the same.

Thursday 19th This day has been clear & hot. Col Graham with his train arrived about 12 M. The settlers this afternoon about 4 O'Clock all safe but much worn out. the gentlemen covered with dust and worn out. encamped in Camp all

day and arranged my things
May Bookus Lieut Williams
and the priests left this
morning Mr French & Lieut
Bonneside this evening. Mr
Radzimski & I took a bath
a wagon was left in the canon
all night unintentionally
but fortunately it has been
brought in safe this afternoon
Friday 20th Clear & excessively
hot. left camp at 7½ and
after travelling about 12 miles
up the river came to a halt
round a place where there
was plenty of grass near the
river. The road over which

we passed to day was slightly undulating but passed over a barren tract a short distance from the river. There are great number of mocking birds about here took a bath in the evening

Saturday 21st Clear & hot left Camp at 7 A.M. this day we travelled about 15 miles over a very sandy road the animals suffered much from the heat and want of water I saw for the first time a Chaparral cock. Mr Smith the trader came into Camp this evening he is on his way to meet his brother took a bath in the river.

Sunday 22d. Clear & hot left camp at half past six the morning was quite pleasant and last night cool. I think that we have travelled to day about 20 miles the road was quite good and the valley of the Rio Grande is improving. Saw numbers of cattle sheep and goats which the mexicans were feeding stopped one of the boys and got some goats milk it was very rich and I much prefer it to that of the cow. I shot several specimens of a fox-tailed

Quail. The thermometer to day at 2 P.M. 106° in the coolest place that could be found Monday 23°. We rose early and were underway at 5 A.M. took with us only the wagons carrying the Corps equipage Capt Arthur & Dr Smith remained with the train they with 20 wagons are to come on this evening. The morning was quite cool but after 10 O'clock it became excedingly hot. and I have felt the heat more than any other day this season. at 9 O'clock we stopped grazed the Animals and took a lunch. we remained about two hours. on the road saw great numbers of Plumed Quail, Hares, and

and small ball-its. The road
we found most of the way
quite good in a few places
sandy. we travelled about
20 miles when we arrived
at San Elizario a small Mexican
settlement the houses are much
scattered and built of adobe
they raise Corn, wheat, and
some few vegetables their
fields are all irrigated. There
is one Company of the 8th
Infantry stationed here Comm
anded by Capt Johns all
their quarters are built
of adobe we found Col
Graham and his party

here. When I arrived it was difficult for me to get enough water to satisfy my thirst in Capt Johns room which to us seemed quite cool the thermometer against the wall stood at 89° in other places in the shade it was 106° after remaining here a few hours we started for Camp about two miles from the post here we found plenty of grass for the animals we suffered much from heat.

Tuesday 24th We left Camp this morning at 4 O'clock. it was quite cool in about 2 miles we came to Decoras, a scattered Mexican

town, three miles farther on and we come to Isleta a much larger town here we saw Mr Isleta who keeps a trading house we got a number of apricots here they were small and not very good) ~~xxx~~ a few miles from here we come to the ford where we crossed the Rio Grande it was a little quicksandy. here we come to Ana Cruz a continuation of the town of El Paso it consists of forms the houses of which are out for a part. there they have very fine vineyards and

fruits of various kinds such as apples, peaches, apricots, pears &c. they also raise corn, wheat beans & red peppers after riding about 8 miles we come to the plaza. this is a great day among the Mexicans Saint Johns the Baptist day we met great numbers of them returning from the Cathedral some were on horseback others in carriages and many walking men and women were riding the same animal, this portion of El Paso the houses are very thick all however are built of adobe and their fences are also made

of sand we crossed the river in a flat boat and after riding about half a mile came to Coons hacienda which is occupied by the troops. here we found Maj Buckus in command. I was introduced to Maj Van Horn, Dr. Stone, Capt Bowman Lieut. Wilkins and a number of others. The quarters are all built of adobe, it is a hot place. The soil on this side of the river is not very good immediately back of the fort there is quite a high mountain

and to the west a number of sand hills. In the afternoon Maj. Backus & Von Horn and a number of us forded the river and rode about the town. Crowds of men, women, and children were in the streets all were rigged out in flashy style. I saw but few good looking women in the Plaza the Pueblo Indians were dancing. Their dance appeared to be the same as I have seen among the Creeks. The soil on this side of the river is exceedingly rich and could be made a perfect garden

nature does every thing for them but they are exceedingly lazy. Crowds were in the streets many of them fighting cocks. we soon returned and I spent the evening about the post. The thermometer has been 110° in the shade for several days.

Wednesday 25th Clear & excessively hot this morning about 10 O'clock I was seized with a violent chill followed with fever. I took a good emetic and was quite relieved. in the afternoon I felt quite well. Mr Moss has just

returned from the Copper mines he called on me. I spent the evening at the post. commenced taking quinine

Thursday 26th Clear & hot hardly a breath of air stirring I had a rather chill followed by fever to day it was not so severe as yesterday remained quiet all day

Friday 27th Clear and hot. I took considerable Quinine and I now feel the effects of it in my head. I wrote a letter to brother. This evening several of us took a walk and crossed over to El Paso. we went to a Lager Beer and had

some Chocolate which was only tolerable. after what I had heard of the Mexican Chocolate I was disappointed two men were killed here last night by an Indian we remained until after dark and then returned Saturday 28th Clear. This has been a pleasant day we rose to a fine breeze packed all my things and got ready to start for Santa Fe I visited the different Officers of the fort I wrote to Dallie Roberts. We struck our Tent and had the wagon packed

Sunday 29th The atmosphere to day has been very smoky the air much heated but there has been a fine breeze. We left Camp soon after sun rise. The first 7 miles of the road was very hilly and sandy high mounts on each side of the river. They consist of porphyry and present quite a rugid appearance on the sand hills near the post there are some Cacti of enormous size. After going about a mile along the road we passed a new stone saw grist mill and houses that have been erected by Mr Hart

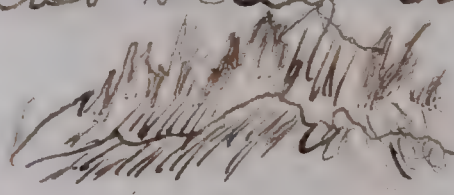
they are the only stone buil-
dings I expect in this county
six miles from here is
a town called Frontera
it is now occupied by
the members of the boundary
commission here we found
Col Graham spent an hour
or more with him. The
wagons however continued
on. The road from here
on is quite level and
the soil in some places
quite good along the river
bottom. The only timber is
cottonwood and mesquite and
these not very abundant, about

ten miles from Frontera we passed a new ranch where they have been busy breaking new ground and digging a large irrigating ditch. The soil looked very fine and stays well. The road passes along not a great distance from the River in many places it was very sandy. I saw a specimen of the Coyote the first wolf that I have seen this season. after going about 25 miles we encamped at Embrasito the battle ground. This is the spot where the Mexicans attacked Col Doniphan and

and he put them to flight and killed a number as he chased them. it is a pretty piece of ground situated on one arm of the river it is covered with a sparce chaparel and pretty good grass. Commenced living on pork and hard bread one of Capt Frenches teamsters was shot through the heart at El Paso last night

Monday 30th We started this morning at 5 O'clock the road we found in tolerable condition it follows the valley within a short distance of the river, off to our right is a range of

mountains presenting quite a singular appearance being very and very irregular. When within



six miles of Don Anna we passed through a Mexican town of about 500 inhabitants it was a miserable looking place. The houses are adobe and very low, The natives look poor, and the women backward. We arrived at Don Anna about 2. There like wise the houses are miserable even those occupied by the troops. The quarters occupied by them are situated on a higher elevation they are all built of adobe. Com

after our arrival one of the teamsters came in and said he had seen Indians driving off a herd of goats and a boy. Capt Beaufort with his company of Dragoons was ordered to pursue them but he soon returned finding that they were Mexicans. Maj Chesseldine commands Dr Zuborski is surgeon of the post & Lieut O'Banion of the Dragoons are the only officers at the post. We got a fine treat of some ice. I saw several Apache women & one man they are quite homely looking beings the Mexican women paraded along the street in the evening with a swaggering they were

singing and praying for rain
there was a little rain in the evening
Tuesday July 1st left this morning at
4.25 am and at 10 o'clock after passing
over a hilly and sandy road of about
23 miles we crossed the Rio
Grande and encamped on the
opposite side. The tongue
of our wagon broke ~~about~~ ~~as~~ being
pulled out of the river. the day has
been clear & hot we were joined
by ~~three~~ gentlemen that had
left the boundary commission
and are going to return ~~home~~
by the way of Santa Fé
Mr West of Raleigh N.C. Mr Mallory of Balt
Mr Tatton is going to Socorro

Wednesday 2d We started at 4 A.M. and at 11 A.M. we were in Santa Barbara having come over 20 miles The road was tolerable. This is a new settlement in quite a pretty valley. and as yet they have not got every thing in order. Here we found a number of Apaches they were trading with the Mexicans they are a miserable looking people and not well formed. The old chief assured us that we could pass along the road unmolested that they were friends of the Americans & New Mexicans but on the other side of the line

they were enemies they behaved very well, we have bought a kid and had some fresh meat it was very fine. had to put another tongue in the wagon. Clear & hot Thursday 3d Left Camp at 4 A.M. and have to day passed over an awfull rough road several hills were so steep that they were forced to unload the wagons and carry the things to the top of the hills. The day has been exceedingly hot & clear excepting a shower this evening. we travelled on until evening over hilly & sandy roads and we were forced to bivouac without water the night being

dark and road bad. Friday 4th
Clear & hot we started at the break
of day and had to travel a
number of miles before we
found grass and water which
we did about 9 O'Clock and here
we stopped on the bank of the
river grazed our Animals
and had breakfast cooked. I
took a bath at 11 A.M. we were
again underway the road con
tinued hilly and sandy and we
came into Camp again about 4 P.M.
in a grove of Cotton-woods on the river
This has been a dull 4th for us all
we drank a few toddys and though
now serious in the "White settlements"
were enjoying themselves a large

party of emigrant Mexicans camped near us
this evening they are going to settle
in Santa Barbara. Saturday 6th
started early the road continued
bad and particularly the last
part of to days march for about
20 miles we had a succession of
steep sand hills without water the
animals and men suffered much
picked up a Burro on the road
To day I think we have come over
30 miles. the weather has been clear
& hot. Sunday 6th Clear & hot left
camp at 8 A.M. and we had to day
a much better road and about 4
P.M. we struck Valverde up which
we travelled about 6 mile it is
a beautifull green valley and

here there are a number of amer
icans cutting hay for government
We must to day have travelled
over 30 miles found an owner for
the burro and gave him up.
Monday 7th Left Camp at 6
A. M. The road to day has been
excellent following the valley
after going about 16 mill we
struck the town of Saint ~~Juan~~
~~Baptiste~~ Antonita and 3 miles from there is
San Antonio here we stopped
some time and rested found the
mexicans playing monte tried
to get some thing to eat but
it was impossible one old
fellow gave us a pie made corn
flower and pumpkin. Six miles

from here is another mud town and here we again stopped a short time and after riding six miles we come to Socorro at this place there is a company of dragoons commanded by Capt Campbell & Lieut Evans. Dr Hammond is Surgeon of the post. Lieut Evans invited me to stay with him. This mud town is prettily situated on a gentle slope at the head of a beautifull valley, in which is to be seen fine fields of wheat & Corn. there is a little fruit also raised. The old cathedral here is the oldest building it is 260 years old and is built of adobe by the Indians and considering what is built it is a fine looking building. In the evening we all went

to a Fandango given by the Celebrated Great Western. this is the woman of the Mexican war notoriety the ball room is quite large. Many senioritas were there and some of them quite good looking. it was kept up until 2 O'Clock. There was a monte table in one room at which there was considerable money lost & won. Had a fine bath this evening. Tuesday 8th Clear & hot took Dinner with the doctor and was much pleased with him there was nothing of interest going on to day

Wednesday 9th Clear & hot made preparations and started at 11 A.M. Capt. H. remained and

is coming tomorrow or next day with Lieut Evans in the ambulance the Captain has given me charge of the party we have an escort of 6 Dragoons and an infantry soldier who was handed over to us by Maj Backus we went 12 miles and encamped on the River in a cottonwood grove. the grass was pretty good. so was also the road and passing over a beautiful valley. stopped at Lemitar and called on the New Mexican Lieu Gen Armijo but he was not at home we met at our Company

some Cherokee traders and some Californians they were all in light Jersey wagons three out of which were drawn by two mules.

Thursday 10th Left Camp at 5 A.M. and after passing over a sandy and hilly road touching the river in a few places we arrived at Savinal at 11 A.M. here we stopped grained our animals and took in a supply of Corn for our animals. Mr. Mallory, West & myself dined together at a Mexican house the dinner consisted of a kind of stew made of dried mutton

which was red and hot with chili also green peas and tortejos. we remained here about two hours and then started found the road quite sandy and heavy in one place the wagon upset breaking all the bows but not injuring the contents this detained us sometime and we were forced to encamp when we were about seven miles from Lorenal on the side of an adobe where there was but little grass and no wood and the men made use of the bois de vache for fuel the animals were very tired. the day has been clear & hot

Friday 11th left camp at 4½ A.M. and passed through the towns Belen, Chávez, Lunis, Lentis and the pueblo of Isleta. near dusk I was called on to dress a Mexican that had been stabbed for which I got $5. Isleta is a town of the Pueblo Indians their houses are built of adobe and are very neat and clean and every thing appears to be in fine order they are industrious and are good farmers and fond to their crops look well they also raise considerable fruit they are supposed to be a portion of the outcrks they now are! have embraced the Roman

Catholic religion keeping up however many of their own forms. The road from here on was very sandy and after going 5½ miles we encamped near Pajarito, and we were much annoyed by the drifting sand. Clear & hot

Saturday 12th left Camp at 4 A.M. and after passing the town found the road excellent until we got near the river opposite Albuquerque here the sand was quite heavy through which we had to pass two miles we crossed the river without trouble the mules were much fatigued. This

is quite an extensive town
and there is one company of
Dragoons & 1 of Infantry stationed
Col Howe commands there I found
Capt. S — & Lieut Irvine they passed
us last night having taken another
road. I was here introduced to
a number of Officers Dr Brown
Dr Hammond Capt Schlocder. Capt Carr
Maj Col Cross & Lieuts —
Here we remained to dinner
and had our animals fed
and at 4 P.M. started and after
going 8 miles encamped
the road follows near the
river and the land is all
under cultivation and houses
are found ~~with~~ along the road

Sunday 13th Sept Camp at 4 P.M.

the road we found for a number of miles sandy it keeps not far from the river and passes through a number of small towns two of which are pueblo. the crops generally look well. we stopped at the house of Don Jose Perea a rich Mexican the front of his house was over 150 ft it is an adobe building one story and furnished with mahogany furniture a modern piano and there among other things some of the children were quite good looking and shown

white blood. The old lady supports an immense Corporation from Albuquerque. up we have had a high range of mountains to our right They are volcanic and present quite a picturesque appearance. we arrived at Algodones about noon procured a supply of Corn as we were here Capt Stoneman & Lieut Evans & B arrived. Six miles from this place above the Pueblo settlement of San Felipe we encamped having found good grass and here Capt S and party left us. during the afternoon and evening

we had a fine shower
blew tremendously and
become quite cool.
Monday 14th left Compat-
ton this and after going
a few miles came to the
town of San Domingo a Pueblo
settlement there we left
to our right and commen-
ced winding our way acro
the mountains from the top
of which we had a fine
view of the valley of the
Rio Grande which we have
now left. when we were
descending the mountain and
turning the corner forew
ow, to our entering the Cañon

Dr. Woodhouse,

Present,

Santa Fé July 21. 187

The pleasure of Your Company is requested at a party to be given this evening at 8½ o'Clock at the Quarters of the 2nd Arty in honor of Col. Monroe.

Committee of Arrangements.

Col. Roots.
Maj. Kendrick
Capt. Bu.

of the Mogado River
we saw a large party ad
vancing which we took
to be Indians and we
got our arms in order and
kept together but on
approach they proved to
be a mixed party of Mexican
Americans and Pueblo with
pack mules. The entrance
of this Canon presents
quite a singular appear
ance the sandstone at the
bottom has much the
appearance of a steeple
of the Egyptian style
with the battlement formation
above this Canon is very
deep and is quite a romantic

spot there is a stream of water passing through it which is now quite small there could with a little work be an excellent road made this canon is about eight miles in extent after leaving it we struck the Ophir road and commenced gradually descending to Ophir there was hardly any thing green to be seen every thing being burnt off the irrigating ditches all being dry we encamped for the night about 3 miles of the town

near some wells of water the Mexicans in the evening were parading about with their shouts singing, firing guns, and playing on the violin in hopes of having rain Tuesday 18th We started this morning about ~~[illegible]~~ and in an hours time we were in Santa Fé this is the largest mud town I have seen in but I must say I was disappointed not finding more improvements in the building the houses are however more comfort. Then

I expected to find them
we had our things unloaded
at Quint Parks office here I found
the Messrs Kerns. I was intro
duced to Capt Rea and was
invited to take my meals
at his mess and sleep at
the office. These, Mexicans
are the most licentious
people I have ever met
with. Gambling, Drinking,
Fandangos &c are the amusements
of the place
Wednesday 15th went to see the
Capt Quartermaster and paid
my respects to Col Monroe
& Mr Temple in the evening

attended a fandango at which there were some quite pretty senoretas all enjoyed themselves and it was conducted in an orderly manner left there about 1 a.m. I have been forced since Monday last to carry my arm in a sling owing to my having barked my knuckles they having taken on inflammation and looking very much like inflammation erysipelas.

Thursday 16th Clear & pleasant

Friday 17th Clear & pleasant

Saturday 18th Col Lamar arrived this afternoon and the troops are all

to leave town together
with all the Dr. Masters
& Com

115

119

From San Antonio

	Army Corps of Eng.	Total from San Antonio
To Castroville	25.42	25.42
" Quihi	10.00	35.42
" Vandenburg	7.17	42.59
" Arroyo Hondo	3.80	46.39
" Rio Seco	8.98	55.37
" Ranchero's creek	8.38	63.75
" Sabinal	3.94	67.69
" Comanche creek	5.37	73.06
" Rio Frio	8.50	81.56
" Head of the Leona	7.06	88.62
" Nueces	7.04	95.66
" Turkey creek	10.37	105.03
" Elm "	15.23	123.26
" Los Moros	7.13	130.39
" Piedra Pinta	7.46	137.85
" Zoquete	7.02	144.87
" Arroyo Pedro	3.81	150.68

Painted Caves	2.54	172.90
Pallos Blancos	16.48	189.38
Camp 2d crossing 2d on San Pedro	18.64	208.02
Head of running water in summer	8.63	216.65
Camp head of valley	13.88	230.53
Howards Springs	41.21	271.25
Live Oak Creek	32.40	304.14
Ferry of Pecos	7.88	312.02
Camp above ferry	12.59	324.61
2d " " "	16 23	340.84
" " leave the Pecos	7.74	348.58
Escondido Creek	18.24	366.82
" Springs	8.58	375.40
Camanche "	19.47	394.87
Leon "	9.57	404.44
Limpia	37.00	441.44
Entrance to W.R. pass	6.97	448.41

Camp in small valley	4.50	452.91
Painted Camp	14.08	466.99
Smiths run	26.33	493.32
Springs	9.00	502.32
Rain water in Providence Creek	17.82	520.14
Water hole dry	18.77	538.91
Eagle Springs	21.57	560.48
Entrance to Cañon	22.61	583.09
Rio Grande	8.81	591.90
Lower ford	54.80	646.70
San Elizario	5.00	651.70
Socorro	4.45	656.15
Saleta	3.10	659.25
Upper ford	7.05	666.30
Como hacienda	7.09	673.39

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4